

Assistant Director for Research and Reports

1 August 1952

Chief, Industrial Division, O/RR

Adequacy of Intelligence Coverage on Bulgaria and Southern Rumania

1. Type of Intelligence Received:

Information received comes chiefly from the following sources:

- a. Press and radio reports [REDACTED] FBIS. 25X1X7
- b. State dispatches.
- c. Air, navy, and army attaches.
- d. Emigres, repatriates, and merchant seamen--OO and SO reports.

This information deals with the following subjects:

- a. Especially, order of battle information. (Constitutes more than half of the information received.)
- b. Overall economic plans and accomplishments.
- c. Imports and exports.
- d. Plant descriptions, inputs, and outputs.

2. Quantity Available:

The amount of information received on these areas is small. Considering the low degree of industrialization of the two satellites, the meagerness of the information received is not surprising. More is received on Rumania than on Bulgaria. Information received is unbalanced. Far more political intelligence and order of battle intelligence is received than economic intelligence.

3. Currency of Information:

Press and radio information is almost current. Delay in transmission of information from other IAC agencies is of some concern. Field collection services are not kept up-to-date on current needs of the parent agency. Translations are excessively slow. Information on plant installations lags twelve months or more.

4. Reliability of Information:

The basic information needed, namely that on plants and plant production, is so meager in quantity that it has been impossible to build up a large enough body of information to permit of the adequate judgment of the reliability of new material that comes in. This will continue to be a problem until our information on these installations is increased to a considerable depth and intensity.

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In the meantime we continue to be subject to the threat of paper mills on the one hand and unqualified observers on the other.

5. Known but Unexploited Sources.

Some of the sources that should be exploited further are:

- a. The Library of Congress. It is right under our nose but translation takes so long that analysts do not use this source adequately.
- b. German Military Document Center files. Contains unexploited information on wartime munitions production in these countries.
- c. [REDACTED] 25X1X4
- d. Renewed exploitation of World War II personnel from the Ploesti area.
- e. U. S. military attache, Rumanian Legation.
- f. ONI.
- g. [REDACTED] 25X1X4

6. Critical Evaluation of the Lack of Data.

Neither of these areas is of prime importance industrially. Rumania is of more industrial significance than Bulgaria. Both are making initial efforts to industrialize certain basic industries. It cannot, therefore be said that our dearth of information on these two countries is as important as the gaps in our knowledge concerning the USSR. However, our ignorance here, contributes further to our lack of knowledge of the total Soviet picture, since more and more the economies of the satellites are being integrated into that of the USSR.

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